

REMARKS

The office action of August 8, 2008, has been carefully considered.

It is noted that claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

Claims 1 and 4-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over the patent to Robotham.

Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Robotham in view of the patent to Draskovitch et al.

Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Robotham in view of the patent to Yoshida.

In view of the Examiner's rejections of the claims, applicant has amended claims 1-5.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims now on file particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Applicant has amended

the claims to address the instances of indefiniteness pointed out by the Examiner.

In view of these considerations it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 1-5 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph is overcome and should be withdrawn.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims presently on file differ essentially and in an unobvious, highly advantageous manner from the constructions disclosed in the references.

Turning now to the references and particularly to the patent to Robotham, it can be seen that this patent discloses a sealing assembly in which the ring 6 rests against the sleeve 5. There is no disclosure of a ring fastened to the neck bush or the roll neck, as in the presently claimed invention. Furthermore, the reference does not disclose a rolled running surface, as in the presently claimed invention.

In view of these considerations it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 1 and 4-5 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over the above-discussed reference is overcome and should be withdrawn.

The patents to Draskovich and Yoshida have also been considered. These references add nothing to the teachings of Robotham so as to teach the presently claimed invention as discussed above in connection with claim 1.

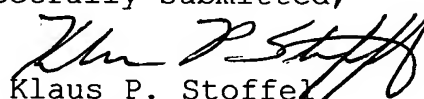
In view of these considerations it is respectfully submitted that the rejections of claims 2 and 3 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are overcome and should be withdrawn.

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.

Any additional fees or charges required at this time in connection with this application may be charged to Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 11-1835.

Respectfully submitted,

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